Purchase of Aircraft by Corporate House

3250. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of corporate houses have requested the Director-General, Civil Aviation (DGCA) for granting approval to purchase advanced jet aircrafts;

(b) if so, what are the names of the corporate houses with the details of proposals submitted by each of them; and

(c) what is the policy with regard to purchase of aircraft/helicopters by corporate houses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK) : (a) and (b) The following corporate houses have requested Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for acquiring jet aircraft for private use :—

Sl. No.	Name of Corporate House	Type of aircraft
1.	Reliance Industries Ltd.	Bombardier BD700-IA 10
2.	Grasim Industries Ltd.	Gulfstream 100
3.	High Grade Petters Ltd.	Falcon 900 B

(c) Permission for purchase of aircraft to be used for scheduled/non-scheduled operations is granted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. Permission for purchase of aircraft for private use is granted by the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) after obtaining views of DGCA.

Contigency plan to contain pneumonia

3251. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
DR. A.R. KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of reports of unknown form of pneumonia spreading in some Asian countries and Canada, the Ministry had issued directions to all the airports in the country to check all the passenger before entering India;

(b) if so, what were the contingency plans prepared by the Ministry of Civil Aviation in this regard;

(c) what steps are being taken so that this disease does not spread in India; and

(d) to what extent these steps have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Suitable instructions have been issued in consultation with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Home Affairs to all airlines to sanitize all aircraft coming from affected countries. Director General of Health Services (DGHS) has positioned doctors at Health counters set up at 12 international and 9 customs airports in India. Health forms have been supplied to Airlines as well as made available in Immigration area to be filled in by all persons disembarking in India to screen symptoms of suspected/probable Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) cases. As per contingency plan, all the suspected cases are to be transported to the designated local hospitals for suitable action. Masks have been supplied at the 5 major airports for the immigration staff performing duty at the Arrival side. Further, World Health Organisation recommended case definition has been adopted for India and circulated to all concerned organisations. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and National Institute of Virology, Pune have been identified as the nodal agencies for investigation of any suspected/probable case. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has obtained the required primers for preparing reagents to diagnose the viruses believed to be causing SARS. Media is being kept informed on the efforts made by the Government to prevent SARS entering the country and to create public awareness.

(d) No case of SARS has so far been finally identified in India.

Airports at Pilgrim Centres

3252. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals to construct airports at pilgrim centres in some States and also renaming of some of the existing airports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?